

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The price of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST from Sept. 1st to January 1st is 50 cents.

Inasmuch as the editors do not open the mail for the office, anything intended for them alone and personally should be plainly marked "Personal." If this direction is followed no one will open the letter but the one it is intended for; ALL matter intended for the paper or business for the office should be addressed to the BRETHREN PUBLISHING HOUSE, ASHLAND, OHIO, and not to S. J. Harrison or S. H. Bashor as editors.

Work for Ashland University: it's going to be a good school and besides its yours.

Sister H. B. Lehman is making a commendable effort in behalf of a S. S. C. E. at Marcus.

Pony Creek church and Young People's Society will be represented at Ashland by Jacob Lichty, Louis S. Bauman and C. F. Yoder.

All parties coming to Ashland via B. & O., or Penn. R. R., will change at Mansfield, O. The Penn. and Erie R. R.'s, have a union depot and the B. & O., depot is but three or four blocks distant. Street cars connect them.

Brothers Worst and Haskins raised a guarantee fund of \$150 among the business men of Ashland to provide for the expenses at the opening of Ashland College. We call this a sign of better days for, and a growing interest in Ashland University.

All persons desiring excursion rates to Ashland who live any where between Pittsburg and Chicago should *a' once* apply to the General Passenger agents of the roads they desire to use to put tickets on sale at depots from which they wish to start, unless the agents already have the necessary instructions.

The death of Bro. Enos Sala has already been published. We did not have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Bro. Sala, but from others we have learned of his exceptionally pure and noble character. We desire the long life of all godly men. However when a man dies we greatly rejoice if we can have hope that he shall have part in the "first resurrection" for over such the second death shall have no power. Now that Bro. Sala has left us it behooves the ministers of the National Association to promptly respond to the Secretary R. R. Teeter, Rossville, Ind., by remitting to him one dollar, the assessment which it was agreed should be made upon the death of any member for the purpose of assisting the family of the bereft in meeting funeral expenses. This is the first death that has occurred in the Association, and now we shall see what our love "in deed and in truth" is. Only those who respond to these calls will be entitled to similar benefits at their death.

Bro. D. J. Bole, of Pittsburg, sends us two subscribers and says, "There will be others shortly I think. Nothing preventing, I hope to meet you personally at the National Conference. Elder J. W. Smouse will be along. The EVANGELIST has improved so much in the last year that I hardly think it the same paper."

The item under "Notes and Comments" in last EVANGELIST was written before the revised program had been received, and should not have been published as it was after publishing the program. Brother Gnagey is authority on the program. It holds against every thing else. Follow the program as he gives it and you will have no trouble.

We have now selected our gift for the children who shall, by December 1st, have written us one letter for each month in 1894. It is a glass pen and holder which is advertised to write one-thousand words with once dipping in the ink. We have written all the Notes and Comments of this EVANGELIST with such a pen and are much pleased with it. It will last a life time if taken care of.

Is baptism essential to salvation? A mighty chorus of voices both of Roman Catholic and Protestant churches answer promptly and emphatically, "baptism in water is not essential to salvation." "But what saith the scriptures?" "Verily, verily, I say unto thee except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he can not enter into the Kingdom of God." John iii, 5. Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins. Acts ii, 38. "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us." Peter iii, 21. Remember it is God's word we have to face at judgment and not the churches, nor their false shepherds.

The National Wine and Spirit Association proposes to raise \$50,000 per year to send out literature and speakers and to sustain an able lawyer at Washington, D. C. They know where to strike to hit the nail on the head. Literature is the cheapest propagator in existence and it will sow with equal facility the good and the bad. But literature alone will not do the work. There is great power in personal presence and no system of propaganda is complete that ignores it. Following this it makes great difference in results whether seed is sown on stony places, the wayside or among thorns. To purify a stream, wisdom sends us to the source of contamination. A small amount of expense there will often do more in sending down the valley a stream of pure water than millions expended farther down. It is a great thing to have the machinery of the state at the command of truth and righteousness. More care should be taken in the future than in the past where and upon what places money and time are expended.

The interest taken in the coming conference by the people of Ashland is very gratifying. Requests have been made to us to have our ministers fill the pulpits of the different churches on Sunday Aug. 26th. This of course we could not promise as we were afraid it might interfere with the program, and remembering how hard it was to get some one to preach at Warsaw, we feared a lack of willing material.

As we read reports of our sister's work, we observe that a few have "suppers," "ice cream festivals," etc. In very many, if not in all cases, these "suppers," etc., are planned and conducted by some of the most spiritual and self sacrificing sisters in the church. But there are many earnest, zealous Christians who consider such business utterly inconsistent with the law of God. While we have seen many reports, as we have said, of "suppers" made for raising funds to carry on the work of the Lord, we have not yet seen a single notice of any one having given such a supper as the Lord commands. To save you the trouble of hunting your unused Bible and wiping the dust from its lids to see what is referred to, we here quote the words: "When thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind." Luke xiv, 13. A church that takes the "whole Bible" for its creed should make a reasonable effort to live up to its teachings. Who will be the first to report the giving of such a feast as the Lord commands and to which none of our good brethren and sisters would file any objections.

Mrs Harrison says, the sisters are quite awakened in the S. S. C. E., work and an interesting and profitable sister's meeting is anticipated at the coming convention. Many societies have already reported their delegates to the convention, and their decisions on important questions. Others have undoubtedly taken action who will be prepared to report at the convention. The societies which have not yet taken action should bestir themselves or they may be numbered with the indifferent ones. There should be no drones or laggards in the work. Drones are neither ornamental nor useful, and should be supplanted by live and energetic workers. Oh, that a wave of concern and unselfishness could be rolled over our brotherhood. What a mighty work could be done; Yes, *could be done*. Sister, if you are sitting idly by you are responsible if it is not done.

Sister Emma Lichty, member of the S. S. C. E. executive committee in the Illio-kota district, requests us to remind the sisters in that district that the convention at Milledgeville is near at hand and that it is expected that each society will send a delegate or letter well loaded with enthusiasm and suggestions for the furtherance of the S. S. C. E.